Disability Committee History 2008-2011
Amy Vidali, Chair
amy.vidali@ucdenver.edu

I located many of the committee’s agendas and minutes (though not all), which gives an idea of the committee’s activities. A summary of our accomplishments:

✓ At long last, demystified the faculty accommodation process, with help from Becka Hill (HR). Created a site with this information, and general resources for faculty with/regarding disability: http://clas.ucdenver.edu/DisabilityInformationFaculty.
✓ Regular meetings with DRS Director Lisa McGill. Concerns regarding support for AMC, student to staff ratio.
✓ Met with AHEC regarding access issues on 9th Street Park. Obtained ramp rail for back of Einstein’s, and signage for the front regarding disabled access.
✓ Reviewed emergency plan for attention to disability, met with Deb Thorson from Denver Fire. Submitted suggestions to the emergency planning team.
✓ Worked on access issues in Starz space.
✓ Regular tabling at the Disability Awareness Day each year (we had a committee banner made that I have).
✓ Networked with other committees: served on Zen Camacho’s diversity committee for several years, also Brenda Allen’s CLAS committee.
✓ Worked toward a standardized syllabi statement (project not completed).
✓ Resolved disabled parking issue in North Classroom lot (special lane to access disabled spots when lot is full).
✓ Secured disability/inclusion library materials for Auraria library.

In my mind, what’s left to do is to re-review DRS functioning, with an eye toward providing more support (perhaps through an AHEAD review, which we could advocate funding for). Also, we should complete our work on a standardized inclusion/disability statement for syllabi, as we did a lot of research on this but didn’t cross the finish line. Finally, we did submit suggestions to the UCD emergency planning team, but never heard back.

UCD Disabilities Committee Meeting: Minutes and Action Items
5014 North Classroom, 11.19.08

MINUTES
developments
• Disability Awareness Day (10/08)
• Diversity & Excellence Grant: Written by Amy Vidali to bring a speaker in the field of disability studies and host two documentaries. The grant is currently under consideration.
• new ally: Vice Chancellor for Diversity & Inclusion, Zen Camacho: As Chair of this committee, I have been meeting with the heads of the other diversity committees (Women’s Issues, Minority Affairs, GLBT). Zen has been very supportive of the committee’s efforts.
• connection to Auraria Library (Althea Redd), who does some disability programming
Report: Meeting with DRS
handouts: demographics, office chart, documentation procedures

- have had social events, not wildly successful
- no alternative technology lab, though UCD students can share the Metro Access Center (concern)
- Committee will meet with DRS in Spring to demonstrate technology

ACTION ITEMS
- **How do faculty with disabilities obtain accommodations on campus?** I will contact Richard Webb and Lisa McGill to follow-up, as this process is unclear.
- **Posting of the DRS website is delayed.** The DRS website is currently complete, but they have been told it cannot be posted until branding is complete. The committee is concerned that this is putting branding ahead of campus and student needs. Amy will be following up with Lisa McGill.
- **The disability support system at AMC is unclear and undersupported.** Lisa McGill provided an organization chart that indicates an unfilled position for disability coordinator at AMC. The committee felt that the responsibility of this person, and the related responsibility placed on Lisa to manage this person from afar, was unreasonable. There is also concern that there is no structure for providing accommodations at AMC (as there has been some commentary that there “aren’t disabled students there”). I will query Lisa for more information and report to faculty assembly. This process will begin in Spring.
- **Policies around disability should be gathered and reviewed.** This includes possible ombudsmen practices, which have been problematic in previous years. Mark raised this issue and will follow-up after I contact the ADA Coordinator for basic policies.
- **It's time to build our website.** The committee came up with a rough outline for the website. Mark and Eric volunteered to research other universities with websites we may want to model. Other ideas on the website are welcome.

website mock-up

www.cudenver.edu/disability

PAGES
- **Homepage**
  - general information

- **for Faculty**
  - Requesting Accommodations
  - Feedback Loop with concerns

- **Teaching and Disability**
  - Best Practices
  - Accessible Teaching/Universal Design

- **for Students**
  - Overview of services, link to DRS page
  - Feedback Loop with concerns
• Disability Scholarship
  o Faculty doing work in disability and disability studies at UCD.
  o links to Disability Studies programs

• Campus Resources
  o Accessible Campus Map
  o information about Metro’s Alternative Technology Lab
  o Library Resources (Althea Redd)

• Events & Useful Links
  o Events
  o Disability Studies on Campus (courses, faculty, events)
  o links to local government disability committees

MINUTES: UCD Disabilities Committee (9.24.09)

Present: Amy Vidali (English), Ed Casteel (Sociology), Sneha Hamilton (CLAS advising), Heidi Golesorkhi (English)

Absent: Michael Green (Biology), Omar Schwartz (Communication), Jose Mercado (CAM), Jonathan Wu (Engineering)

About the Committee, Past Activities
Previous activities include tabling at Auraria Disability Day (10/2008), meetings with Disability Resources and Services, and work on the website. I also discussed concerns with getting information on faculty accommodations, and previous delays of the Disability Resources and Services website. The orientation of the committee is noted on the website (though some of the other information is out of date, as I cannot currently update the site): http://www.cudenver.edu/disability.

Upcoming Plans & Current Activities
1. The committee will again be tabling at Auraria Disability Awareness Day, which is coming up quickly on October 8th. Please let me know if you can help out:
   10a-11a: Amy; 11a-12:30p: Amy and Sneha; 12:30-2p: Heidi

   The area is typically shaded, and I will be giving our banner to Heidi in case I am away for the birth of my nephew. Ed volunteered to get donated prizes for a raffle, and he has secured those prizes and made a sign. I will be making the raffle sign-up sheet and will bring a container for the tickets. Prizes can be awarded at a later time (as the winner will not likely be present).

2. Last year I wrote a CU Diversity and Excellence grant to fund a Disability as Diversity series. In February 2009, I brought Rosemarie Garland Thomson to speak about disability and eugenics. On November 18 at 1p I will be bringing Dr. Sue Schweik to talk about her book (The Ugly Laws, NYU Press). Please put it on your calendar if you can. Upcoming speakers include Anne Finger (to discuss her book Call Me Ahab), and Margaret Price, who writes about rhetorics of mental disability and illness in higher ed. Since the meeting, I completed my interview regarding the series with the PBS show “A Wider World” (9/29), and it will screen next month.
3. Prior to the meeting, I had contacted AHEC regarding access issues on 9th St Park. The day after the meeting, I met with AHEC, along with Heidi, to discuss concerns. I will provide a full update at our next meeting, but AHEC was responsive, particularly to fixing the ramp behind Einstein’s Bagels.

4. The committee is prioritizing creating a disability-oriented student group (for disabled students and allies), and/or having student representatives on our committee. Ed asked Lisa McGill about the history of such groups. We can speak with students about this issue at the Disability Awareness Fair next week.

5. A future project is consideration of disability in the campus emergency plan. I also discussed my successful library request for Gimp Parade, which touches on this issue in a mockumentary, and which we can screen in the committee meeting once the DVD arrives.

6. Another future project is looking at the suggested strategies for dealing with disability, and suggested/required syllabi language, in each college. A sample from CLAS was handed out at the meeting and is provided on the next page.

Since the Meeting
- I heard back from Lisa McGill (Director of Disability and Resources and Services) regarding the replacement for Richard Webb, who previously coordinated faculty accommodations. The new hire is Becka Hill, and I will be in contact with her shortly so we can review policies and procedures.
- I will be arranging for Lisa McGill to attend a future meeting of the committee.

AGENDA: UCD Disabilities Committee (11.2.09)

- Lisa McGill
  - How can this committee support your efforts and advocate for you?
    - What are the major issues your office is facing?
    - How might we reach out to disabled students, to get feedback and involvement?
    - Is there required syllabus language? (Is this a good idea?)

- Auraria Disability Awareness Day (raffle, success, “disability access”)

- Diversity Council update

- Disability as Diversity Series: Sue Schweik (flyer)
  - related events or things to publicize?

- Spending our money

- CLAS website revision
- College of Architecture and Planning
- College of Arts & Media
- Business School
- School of Education and Human Development
short-range projects
- AHEC regarding access issues on 9th St Park, particularly ramp behind Einstein’s Bagels.
- screening of Gimp Parade
- contacted Becka Hill, waiting to hear back
- PBS (no date yet)

long-range projects
- disability in the campus emergency plan

MINUTES: UCD Disabilities Committee (2.10.10)

ACTION ITEMS SUMMARY (details below)
- review emergency plan in terms of disability
- promote Finger event within your department/college
- test out disability access on campus as possible (send concerns to Amy to send to AHEC)
- gather resources to place on CLAS disability website
- consider adding warning/awareness sign to sloping road between Arts and Library
- explore possibility of disability safe zone (Omar)
- keep abreast of access issues in Starz (Omar, everyone)
- resolve Einstein’s issue (Amy)
- contact Becka Hill to come to next meeting (Amy)
- contact Brenda regarding student and faculty feedback loops on CLAS site (Amy)

Introductions
Present: Ed Casteel, Michael Greene, Omar Schwartz, Sneha Hamilton, Amy Vidali

Summary of where we left off
- Meeting with Lisa McGill
- Auraria Disability Awareness Day
- AHEC regarding access issues on 9th St Park, particularly ramp behind Einstein’s Bagels.
- possible future plans:
  - Becka Hill visit (clarify faculty/staff accommodations),
- consider disability in campus emergency plan
- We have two gift cards left over from Disability Awareness Day that can be used for future events.
- We agreed to follow up with Ken Ross regarding the still unresolved Einstein’s bagels issue (email sent 2.10.10). This is the third follow-up on this issue.
• We agreed to begin investigating access issues on campus (such as trying door openers), and developing a list of concerns for AHEC. Michael is going to work to resolve a broken opener issue in the new Science building.
• We agreed to invite Becka Hill to our next meeting to discuss accommodations for faculty and staff (email sent 2.10.10).
• The committee will consider disability in the campus emergency plan and discuss concerns at our next meeting on March 10th. Committee members agreed to review the plan (email sent 2.10.10).

• Disability & CLAS Diversity Council
  ▪ April 2, 11:30-1p, Phamaly
  ▪ syllabi statements
  ▪ Universal Design in Education Training
  ▪ CLAS website revision (model for other colleges)
• We agreed that if the Diversity Council needed financial help for the Phamaly visit, some committee monies could be used (amount TBD). I may also offer the gift cards.
• In conjunction with the CLAS Diversity Council, Amy has been working on standardized syllabi statements regarding disability. Though such statements exist, the revised statements would work to be more welcoming and thorough.
• The CLAS disability website being built through the Diversity Council would duplicate previous committee goals regarding a website. Committee members can begin culling resources for the CLAS website, which Amy will pass on to the Council.

• Disability as Diversity Series
  ▪ Rosemarie Garland Thomson (2/09); Sue Schweik (11/09)
  ▪ upcoming: Anne Finger (2/25/10)
• Posters were provided regarding Anne Finger’s upcoming visit. Committee members were asked to promote the event (an email was also sent).

AGENDA: UCD Disabilities Committee (3.10.10)
Amy Vidali, PhD (English); amy.vidali@ucdenver.edu

1. Introductions

2. Visitor: Becka Hill, Employment Rights Compliance & Investigation Officer
  • 303-315-2724, Becka.Hill@UCDenver.edu
  • EEOC Compliance, Disability Accommodations, Complaints of Sexual Harassment, Discrimination, etc.

3. CLAS Diversity Council Event: April 2, 11:30-1p, Phamaly

4. Disability Inclusion Statement (syllabi)
If you have a disability, or think you may have a disability, I encourage you to contact me so we can work together to develop strategies for your success. The office of Disability Resources and Services (DRS) provides support for students with disabilities, and you can find them at their website (http://hshealth.uchsc.edu/disabilityresources/) or by calling (303) 556-3450/TTY (303) 556-4766. To access their services, you will need to provide documentation of disability.
Other language you might include:

- Disabilities can be visible and invisible, and I am dedicated to ensuring that all students succeed in my course.
- I look forward to conversations about your learning styles and needs.
- Please contact me or DRS early in the semester, before exams and papers are due.
- You may contact DRS without notifying me if you would prefer to keep your disability confidential.
- It is the policy of the University of Colorado Denver to create inclusive learning environments.
- The University of Colorado Denver and I are dedicated to honoring the rights ensured by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disability Act.

5. Campus Emergency Plans


COMPLETED ACTION ITEMS

- promote Finger event within your department/college
- resolve Einstein’s issue (Amy)
- contact Becka Hill to come to next meeting (Amy)
- contact Brenda regarding student and faculty feedback loops on CLAS site (Amy)

REMAINING ACTION ITEMS

- review emergency plan in terms of disability
- test out disability access on campus as possible (send to Amy to send to AHEC)
- explore possibility of disability safe zone (Omar)
- gather resources to place on CLAS disability website
- consider adding warning/awareness sign to sloping road between Arts and Library
- keep abreast of access issues in Starz (Omar, everyone)

RELEVANT PARTS OF CAMPUS EMERGENCY PLANS


The purpose of the University of Colorado Denver Emergency Management Plan (hereafter referred to as the Plan) is to establish policies, procedures and an organizational structure for managing emergencies for the Anschutz Medical Campus (AMC) and the Downtown Campus (DC) buildings administered by UC Denver. The Plan identifies departments, units, and personnel that are directly responsible for emergency response and critical support services. The Plan also describes roles, responsibilities, and operational strategies during an emergency.
The Chancellor's Executive Council is made up of the Chancellor and Vice Chancellors. This committee reviews and approves the Emergency Management Plan and provides executive administrative direction to academic, administrative, and support units.

Emergency Management Operations Group – consists of a cross-section of Assistant and Associate Vice Chancellors leadership and a member from each school/college as well as safety and emergency response staff and administrators. These individuals serve as liaisons for their working groups and develop the overall Emergency Management Plan. The EMOG will also be responsible for meeting on a periodic basis to review this plan, and to provide continual updates as necessary.

Emergency Response Team - The ERT is responsible for the day-to-day management of mitigation and preparedness activities. In emergency response and recovery, the ERT is the personnel pool from which the initial members of the emergency operations center and Incident Command organization are mobilized. The members of the ERT are drawn from the University's administrative and academic leadership as well as Police, Facilities, Information Technology Systems and Finance and Administration.


ELEVATOR OUTAGES OR PERSONS TRAPPED: Most elevators have direct communication to the UCD Police by pushing a button on a panel. If persons are trapped in an elevator, call Auraria Higher Education Center (AHEC) Police from a campus phone at 911 or from any other phone at (303) 556-5000. Do not attempt to open the elevator door yourself. Police and Facilities Operations personnel will respond and evaluate the situation. If they cannot open the doors, the fire department will be called to assist.

Upon discovery of a fire on campus, follow the A-RACE actions:

1. **ACTIVATE**: Pull the nearest fire alarm pull-box (usually at or near an exit door).
2. **RESCUE:** If safe, assist any injured or disabled persons out of the area. Do not put yourself in danger.

3. **ALERT:** Notify others in the immediate area. From a safe location, call Auraria Higher Education Center (AHEC) Police from a campus phone at 911 or from any other phone at (303) 556-5000. Give the exact location, what is burning, and your name.

4. **CONFINE:** Close doors as you exit the fire area.

**EXTINGUISH and/or EVACUATE:** Extinguish the fire, if safe. Otherwise, evacuate the building by following the exit signs to the shortest or safest route, but **DO NOT USE ELEVATORS.** Assemble at your assigned safe location. Supervisors should try to account for all personnel known to be working in the area of the fire. Report injured, trapped, or unaccounted for persons to fire personnel. **DO NOT re-enter the building until alarms have stopped and/or emergency personnel advise you that it is safe to re-enter.**

In the event that a campus or building evacuation is required, move quickly, but in an orderly fashion to the nearest exit. **DO NOT USE ELEVATORS.**

*It is campus policy to evacuate whenever a fire alarm sounds or when directed by emergency personnel. Once outside of the building:

1. Continue to a safe distance (a minimum of 100 feet or more when directed by emergency personnel).
2. Keep clear of emergency vehicles.
3. Gather at your pre-determined safe location and try to account for all persons who were in your area. If you know of persons who are injured, trapped, or unaccounted for, report that information to emergency responders.

Do not leave the campus without notifying your supervisor.

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**UCD Disabilities Committee Agenda** (amy.vidali@ucdenver.edu)
4.12.10

1. Disability Awareness Fair – YES!

2. Disabilities Committee and CLAS Diversity Council

3. **Committee Membership (correspondence with Laura Argys)**
   Thanks for the election information. With the permission of Faculty Assembly, last year the Disabilities Committee (which I chair) sent out a general call for membership. This resulted in a group of people truly interested in serving on the committee, and we have made more progress in the last year than in the three previous years I have served (two of those as chair).

   My experience is that those automatically placed on the committee (primarily those outside CLAS) were not interested and did not participate [details removed].
**active members**
Ed Casteel (Sociology, volunteer)
Heidi Golesorkhi (English, NTTF, volunteer)
Sneha Hamilton (CLAS advisor, volunteer)
Omar Schwartz (Communication, volunteer)
Michael Greene (Biology, volunteer)
Igancio Ferrer-Vincent (Library, assigned)

**non-attending/participating members:**
[names removed]

Can we talk a bit about the process of adding folks to these committees, and/or the Disabilities Cmte in particular? I’d like to have folks who are listed as "on" the committee but never attend removed, and to add active volunteer members to the rolls. (We have a meeting tomorrow and I can confirm that those on the committee continue to be interested in participating.)

Perhaps I can also send out a general call to all the colleges/schools to invite those who want to run for election, and avoid folks being assigned? My general call late last summer was only to CLAS, in a desperate move for members.

4. **Einstein’s Update.** AGAIN.

5. **Becka Hill**
   - results of follow-up; ideas to get faculty and staff accommodations out to folks

6. **Starz Update (Omar)**

7. **End-of-semester plan**
   - Can we get the emergency plan review done this semester? Possible tasks:
     - find schools with good plans, identify key sections to address
     - write up our plan (different parts by different sections); Amy edits
     - send to Lisa for review (and distribution?)

Future Plans:
- test out disability access on campus as possible (send concerns to Amy to send to AHEC)
- gather resources to place on CLAS disability website
- consider adding warning/awareness sign to sloping road between Arts and Library
- contact Brenda regarding student and faculty feedback loops on CLAS site (Amy)

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From: Vidali, Amy
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2010 4:19 PM
To: Vidali, Amy; Wu, Jonathan; Golesorkhi, Heidi; Greene, Michael; Casteel, Edward; Hamilton, Sneha; Swartz, Omar; Ferrer-Vinent, Ignacio; Mercado, Jose
Cc: Hill, Becka
Subject: 4.14 minutes and action items
Hello all,

Thanks for the productive meeting today. **Omar, I do not have the email for our fantastic new member. Can you send along her information?**

We discussed:

- The overlap between our committee and the CLAS Diversity Council this past year. Brenda confirmed this will not continue as the CLAS Council will not continue to focus on disability in AY 2010-2011.
- Ken Ross at AHEC said that the ramp we requested at Einstein’s was finally installed, along with a sign on the front of the building. Try to swing by and check it out! The next access issue might be a sign about the sloping road between Auraria Library and Arts, to indicate alternate routes and warn those who may struggle with it.
- Omar provided an update regarding Starz access. He and Lisa went through and Lisa wrote up a brief report. (Omar, might you share this report with the committee?) The report has been given to Brenda Allen, and related concerns with emergency access will be folded into our more general emergency assessment (see below).
- We discussed the success of the Disability Festival.
- We talked about examining the accessibility of testing services (ETS).
- We had a new member join the committee, Helbis Varangot. She is a student and also works in the Denver EEOC office as an investigator. She will be a great resource, and we welcome her as our student member! She is planning to arrange a tour of the EEOC office –more on this soon.

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. **Committee Composition/Elections (Amy):** We’re considering how people become part of our committee. I am waiting to hear back about the possibility of promoting our committee in the various schools and colleges, so folks might want to join (and we could assign folks being assigned). I also want all of volunteer members to be recognized on the Faculty Assembly website for service this year.

2. **Faculty and Staff Accommodations (Amy):** I’d like to get materials from Becka Hill’s office that explain the process of getting faculty and staff disability accommodations. We can then try to get this information posed on myCU, HR website, CLAS website, DRS website, and the Faculty Assembly website. I’ll be in touch with Becka.

3. **Emergency Plan:** This is our major project for the remainder of the term. We seek to author a report that identifies problems with the campus emergency plan as pertains to disability, and ideas and best practices. Some concerns raised were stair access, the emergency phone system, internal offices, and the like. We’re moving forward with the following plan, and please send information as you get it and I will begin writing the report.

   o **Heidi:** Will look into current Colorado legislation pertaining to emergency access.
Michael: Will look into having the fire department visit us to talk about access. This can be at the next meeting, or perhaps sooner so we can get the report done this semester?

Ignacio: Will research the draft emergency plan that exists for the library.

Sneha & Amy: Will identify good campus emergency plans, basic guidelines.

Amy: Will contact the emergency office to see if there are additional policies, perhaps pertaining to disability, that are not posted on the site. This will also give them a sense of what is coming.

I’ve attached the overview of the campus emergency plans I handed out in March.

NEXT MEETING: May 5 at 11:30a in NC 5018. (We meet the second Wednesday of each month).

MINUTES
UCD DISABILITIES COMMITTEE
5.5.10

Present: Amy Vidali (Chair), Michael Greene, Heidi Golesorkhi, Jose Mercado, Helbis Varangot, Omar Swartz, Ignacio Ferrer-Vinet, Ed Casteel (absent: Jonathan Wu, Sneha Hamilton on maternity leave)

FOLLOW-UP ON PAST ISSUES

• At the Faculty Assembly Diversity Committee meeting (5.3.10), Chair John Wycoff came to talk about issues with committee assignments, attendance, and related faculty assembly attendance. Ann Rutherford, assembly assistant, will be tracking down some information about how other colleges/schools do elections. Following this, we can consider sending informational sheets about the committee to be distributed in those colleges during future elections.
  o next step: Make information flyers regarding committee.

• Amy presented materials from Becka Hill, the UC Denver ADA Coordinator (for faculty and staff), which included a general handout and the request for accommodations 2-page handout. At the meeting, we reviewed these materials and talked about adding a more “welcoming” sheet, and then getting these items posted.
  o next step: Write welcoming introduction and ask various websites to post this information (DRS, HR, myCU, CLAS, etc.).

• Emergency Plan: Action items from the last meeting were addressed.
  o Heidi: Will look into current Colorado legislation pertaining to emergency access.
    ▪ This legislation did not make it out of committee.
  o Michael: Will look into having the fire department visit us to talk about access.
    ▪ See below.
  o Ignacio: Will research the draft emergency plan that exists for the library.
Ignacio brought a draft of the Auraria Library plan, which seemed more detailed than what we had seen so far in UCD materials. It provides good templates as we move forward to make suggestions, as duties are clearly outlined.

- **Amy:** Will contact the emergency office to see if there are additional policies, perhaps pertaining to disability, that are not posted on the site. This will also give them a sense of what is coming.
- The office clarified that they do not have additional materials, though they expressed enthusiasm to hear more from us regarding disability.

**VISITOR: Deborah Thorson from Denver fire (coordinated by Michael Greene).**

We had a brief but very important visit from Denver Fire. Some notes from our discussion and her presentation:

- Because UC Denver is a government/state institution, its emergency procedures do not have to be reviewed by Denver Fire. But they are happy to do so if we ask, and we should contact Jim Martinez in that case.
- She strongly suggested that we involve people with disabilities in the process.
- In our discussions, it became clear that staff might need to play a central role in any “team” evacuation process, as faculty are not predictably on campus.
- We should be clear on whether we call 911 or some other number in cases of emergency.
- She provided several resources the committee can follow-up on:
  - National Organization on Disability Emergency website, www.nod.org/emergency
  - Denver Office of Emergency Management (Carolyn Bluhm, 720-865-7698), www.denvergov.org/oem
  - Citizens Emergency Response Training (CERT), which provides free classes and is associated with FEMA, http://www.denvergov.org/HomePage/CERT/tabid/426128/Default.aspx
  - Colorado School Safety Resource Center, http://www.safeschools.state.co.us/
- The committee also commented that given our resources, we need to work to remain focused on emergency preparedness and disability, while passing on more general resources as possible.

**FUTURE PLANS**

In Fall 2010, the committee will follow-up on the above issues. Another issue raised is disabled parking on the UC Denver campus, particularly in the lot by North Classroom. We will take this up as well.

**AGENDA**

**UCD DISABILITIES COMMITTEE**

9.16.10

1. Introductions

2. Disability Fair: Monday, October 4th 10a-2p
   - people to table
   - can use some of the prizes for last year for raffle
• what else?

3. Suggestions for Committee’s 2010-2011 agenda

4. Previous issues (also see attached minutes)
   • Faculty recruitment from other colleges
   • Emergency plan recommendations
   • linking to information on faculty accommodations
   • Disabled parking on campus

5. Meeting plan for the semester

MINUTES: UCD Disabilities Committee
(11.19.10, meeting; 11.30.10, minutes)
Amy Vidali, amy.vidali@ucdenver.edu

present: Maria Buszek, Heidi Golesorkhi, Omar Swartz, Haichun Ye, Ignacio Ferrer-Vincent
absent: Jonathan Wu, Sneha Hamilton, Ed Casteel, Helbis Varangot, Becka Hill

Report: Disability Pedagogy Workshop
This event was a success. Materials for the workshop are here:
http://clasfaculty.ucdenver.edu/avidali/index.html (upper left corner). I am thinking toward a multi-part
event in Spring or Fall, and the committee will fund food for these events. The committee decided that
event attendees need not be compensated (beyond food).

Disability Inclusion Statement (syllabi)
The disability inclusion statement drafted by the committee in Spring 2010 was put forward to Lisa
McGill (Director of DRS) for feedback and possible approval. This was delivered to Lisa via the CLAS
Diversity Council and Brenda Allen.

Committee “by-laws”
There was a discussion of the committee and expectations. In particular, I noted that I might not be
chair after this year (depending on a replacement), and that the various faculty assembly diversity
committees (minority affairs, women’s issues, GLBT, disabilities) are considering moving under the
auspices of the Vice Chancellor (VC) of Diversity and Inclusion, rather than under Faculty Assembly, as
currently housed. At present, being Chair of the Disabilities Committee requires concurrent
membership on faculty assembly, executive committee of faculty assembly, and the diversity committee
(run by the VC). Being housed under the VC would allow the membership of the committee to expand
(partly in line with our already expanded nature), and the diversities committees would rotate sending a
representative to each Faculty Assembly meeting (instead of each chair being asked to go each month).
Lastly, we confirmed the current system of having three meetings per semester (Sept-Oct-Nov or Feb-
March-April), plus any committee events.

Disabled Parking on campus (Heidi)
Heidi explained some of the current issues with disability parking on campus. In part, there do not seem
to be enough spots, and secondarily, access to these spots is sometimes complicated, particularly in the
lot near North Classroom, where a line of those waiting to park blocks access to the spots. Heidi will be spear-heading this issue, and Amy will send an email connecting Heidi and Lisa McGill, to see if she knows how the number of “necessary” spots are determined.

**Speaker/Event for Spring?**
The committee talked about possible events for Spring. Ideas centered around Maria (a committee member) talking about WWI art, with a panel including veterans. Ultimately, we decided this might be a good panel for Veteran’s Day events, and will work toward planning this event in Spring.

I also offered Alison Kafer as someone to speak on disability and gender, but we tabled this for later. There was also discussion of an event CU Boulder will be holding with Lennard Davis, and funding for this event is currently working its way through the President’s Fund for the Humanities process. I also discussed bringing Laura Hershey, a renowned and local disability activist, to campus. Sadly, Laura has passed away since our meeting.

**Committee and future issues**
1. Ignacio discussed the formation of an Auraria Library Task Force on Accessibility. I offered to have committee involvement as he desired.
2. The committee followed up on what to do regarding our work on disability in the emergency plan of UCD (or not). While the committee had initially conceived of writing a more extensive report, at this point, we plan to produce a one-page letter identifying the lack of attention to disability in the plan, and leaving it to the Emergency Response Team to identify next steps. Amy will complete this project over the winter break.
3. We need to locate a place to post an inviting summary of the process of getting faculty accommodations. It does not exist on the HR website, and for various reasons, cannot. We will locate space for this web project in Spring.

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**AGENDA: UCD Disabilities Committee**
5.4.11
Amy Vidali, amy.vidali@ucdenver.edu

**Updates**
- Culture, Society, and Medicine Minor
- Center for Bioethics and Humanities at AMC
  - http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/bioethics/Pages/bioethicshumanitie5.aspx
- “Housing” of Disability Resources and Services

**Web space for faculty with disabilities**
- Firm up “title” for the site and the website tab
- Finalize content
  - Text & links regarding disability studies & pedagogy, intro: Amy
  - Text & links regarding on-campus access and parking: Heidi
  - Text & links regarding disability and the library: Ignacio
  - Text & links regarding EEOC resources: Helbis
  - Text & links regarding gaining faculty accommodations: Becka/Amy
  - Text & links regarding student accommodations (brief): Omar
Text & links to a few key resources for all faculty: Maria; Jonathan
Text & links to disability resources in Denver (housing, etc.): Ed
Possible free images to use on the site: Sneha

Margaret Price visit (September 22nd?)

Feedback on syllabus blurb

**DISABILITY INCLUSION STATEMENT**
If you have a disability, or think you may have a disability, I encourage you to contact me so we can work together to develop strategies for your success. The office of Disability Resources and Services (DRS) provides support for students with disabilities, and you can find them at their website (http://hschealth.uchsc.edu/disabilityresources/) or by calling (303) 556-3450/TTY (303) 556-4766. To access their services, you will need to provide documentation of disability.

Other language you might include:
- Disabilities can be visible and invisible, and I am dedicated to ensuring that all students succeed in my course.
- I look forward to conversations about your learning styles and needs.
- Please contact me or DRS early in the semester, before exams and papers are due.
- You may contact DRS without notifying me if you would prefer to keep your disability confidential.
- It is the policy of the University of Colorado Denver to create inclusive learning environments.
- The University of Colorado Denver and I are dedicated to honoring the rights ensured by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disability Act.

Committee Membership and Changes for Fall 2011

Next meeting TBD

other/past issues
- no new information about emergency plan