Faculty Assembly Disabilities Subcommittee
Draft Agenda prepared by Co-Chairs Leo P Bruederle and Amy Vidali
Wednesday, 8 April 2014, 9:15-10:15a, Auraria Library Room 118

1. Membership: Leo P Bruederle (Co-Chair, CLAS), Jeff Schweinfest (CLAS Advising), Judith Valdez (Auraria Library), Amy Vidali (Co-Chair, CLAS). On leave: Barbara Dray (Secretary, SEHD)

2. Announcements
   a. Faculty Assembly currently making decisions about stipends (Leo?)
   b. Next meeting is below
   c. DRS is currently serving 650 students (!), up from 250 the last time I asked. I am awaiting a break-down by disability type. (Susan Rexroth has been out sick, but I’m reconnecting with her – Amy.)

3. New Business:
   a. Concern: 4th floor hallway of North Classroom, TRIO is using hallway as office space so not accessible – how to notify? (Amy)

4. Old Business:
   a. Updates on recruitment?
      i. Jeff and advisors
      ii. Amy contacted Lisa Keranen (COMM), Marjorie Levine-Clark (CLAS), and Ann Martin (BUS)
   b. Campus syllabi statement on disability
      i. draft sent prior to meeting, feedback received
      ii. see possible statements and questions attached to this agenda
   c. Update Disability Information for Faculty website (Amy)
      i. current site:
         http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/CLAS/AboutUs/WhyChooseCLAS/Diversity/Pages/DisabilityInformationforFaculty.aspx
      ii. only option with the Faculty Assembly site is to add to the current DisC website, but this will not work
      iii. have queried Center for Faculty Development (Donna Sobel)
      iv. another idea if CFD says no?

5. Possible future projects
   a. Develop grievance policy for faculty accommodations
      i. see recent DRS policy: http://www.ucdenver.edu/student-services/resources/disability-resources-services/accommodations/Pages/grievance-policy.aspx - this has been approved by legal
      ii. need to research other policies at other universities
   b. Initiate AHEAD review of DRS
      i. see AHEAD materials: https://www.ahead.org/program_eval_tools
      ii. need a stronger relationship with DRS for this project, not response to recent emails
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<tr>
<td>April 9, 2014</td>
<td>9:15-10:15a</td>
<td>Room 118, Auraria Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 7, 2014</td>
<td>9:15-10:15a</td>
<td>Friends Conference Room, Auraria Library</td>
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<td>April 1, 2014</td>
<td>10:00 am – 11:45 am EC</td>
<td>LSC - CFD Suite 320 Conf.</td>
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<td>May 6, 2014</td>
<td>10:00 am – 11:45 am EC</td>
<td>LSC - CFD Suite 320 Conf.</td>
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DisC: Universal Syllabi Statement on Disability (revised)
4.8.14

- Of the three versions, which do you like best?
  - I like version #2. It seems more personal. (Judith)
  - Also liked version #2 (changed require to need). (Jeff)

- Any suggestions for language to remove, or language to add, from the syllabi statement?
  - I would suggest putting the contact information for the DRS at the end, possibly as a note. (Judith, let’s discuss)

- Any thoughts on the Q&A – questions to add or remove or rephrase?
  - I am assuming that the syllabi statement is required. Would that be a question that faculty would ask, i.e. Am I required to use this statement in my syllabus? If so, should we address it in the Q & A? (Judith – added, Amy)

- Who should we circulate this to for feedback before taking to Faculty Assembly?
  - Maybe some of the department chairs who might have an interest in this issue? (Judith)
  - Possibly someone in HR? (Judith)
  - CLAS diversity council (Amy)
  - will sent to Tara Wood, has published on this (Amy)
  - other places for faculty feedback (Amy)
  - circulate to DRS last (Amy)

- other issues
  - is title okay? (Universal Syllabi Statement on Disability)
  - is “Disability and Access” what we want?
  - other FAQs? what resources for the bottom?
  - should we have the website done first?
  - timeline?

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Universal Syllabi Statement on Disability

**PURPOSE:** To encourage student success and comply with federal law, the Faculty Assembly Disabilities Committee (DisC) has constructed the following Universal Syllabi Statement on Disability. This statement has been approved by Faculty Assembly. It was designed according to best practices in the field (Madden and Wood, ___), and has been reviewed by Disability Resources and Services (DRS), ___, and _____.

1) **Disability and Access**
The University of Colorado Denver is committed to ensuring the full participation of all students in its programs, including students with disabilities. I encourage you to contact Disability Resources and Services (DRS) and/or speak with me if you have a disability or think you have a disability, and need accommodations to succeed in this course. (DRS is located in NC 2514, phone 303-556-3450/TTY 303-
556-4766, or locate the website.) I am committed to providing equal access as required by federal law, and I look forward to developing strategies for your success in this course.

2) Disability and Access
The University of Colorado Denver is committed to ensuring the full participation of all students in its programs, including students with disabilities. If you have a disability or think you have a disability and need accommodations to succeed in this course, I encourage you to contact Disability Resources and Services (DRS) and/or speak with me. (DRS is located in NC 2514, phone 303-556-3450/TTY 303-556-4766, or locate the website.) I am committed to providing equal access as required by federal law, and I am interested in developing strategies for your success in this course.

3) Disability and Access
If you have a disability or think you have a disability, I encourage you to contact Disability Resources and Services (DRS) and/or speak with me so that we can develop strategies for your success in this course. The University of Colorado Denver and its faculty are committed to ensuring the full participation of all students in its programs, including disabled students, to promote student success. I am committed to providing equal access as required by federal law, and I am interested in developing strategies for your success in this course.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Is the statement required? Can I adapt the statement above?
A. The goal in developing this statement was to eliminate illegalities and inconsistencies across UC Denver’s various college policies, so this statement is required, but you can add additional information specific to your course. If you choose to add additional comments, they should not conflict with existing information, and be sure that your statement does not require students to have accommodations or letters to you by a certain date (though accommodations are not retroactive) or require students to talk to you if they prefer to keep their disability confidential and work with DRS. Also, remember that technology (such as laptops) often helps certain students learn, so only ban technology if truly necessary. Finally, note that reasonable accommodations sanctioned by DRS must be provided.

Q. A student with a disability has come to talk to me, but does not have a DRS letter. What should I do?
A. The best first step is to simply listen to the student. Some students are requesting basic accommodations and may not have DRS letters if they have obvious disabilities, choose to self-advocate, and/or cannot afford required testing to gain DRS documentation. The university does not require you to accommodate students without letters, but there is nothing preventing you from having discussions with the student and making best pedagogical decisions, as you would with any student who approaches you with a concern.

Q. Where can I get information about campus resources and including students in my classes?
A. DisC has built a website specifically for UC Denver Downtown Denver Campus faculty, with campus resources and ideas toward creating accessible courses, to include all students and minimize awkward accommodations added later: http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/CLAS/AboutUs/WhyChooseCLAS/Diversity/Pages/DisabilityInformationforFaculty.aspx.
In addition, these resources are also helpful:
- [need to flesh this out]