Director’s Note
As we pass the semester mid-point, it’s a busy time for students and faculty as you prepare for semester end projects, final exams and for some – graduation.

In addition to our office providing accommodations for your final exams, we are also continuing to move forward with the development of disability-related resources and services for the Anschutz Medical Campus.

- Our permanent office space has been approved for the ground floor of the 500 Bldg. We anticipate moving in approx. seven months.

- Our new office space will include rooms designated for the provision of testing accommodations. In addition, a sound masking system will be installed which will assist with providing a quiet testing environment.

As you probably have heard about budget cuts at both the state and national level, I want to assure you that our staffing levels will remain consistent. We will work with you to ensure that all approved accommodations are provided in a timely manner.

As always, please stop by the office or call Sherry for any needed assistance. We wish you the best as you finish this semester.
What is Universal Design?

Universal design is the design of products and environments to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design.

–Ron Mace

The intent of universal design is to simplify life for everyone by making products, communications, and the built environment more usable by as many people as possible at little or no extra cost. Universal design benefits people of all ages and abilities. [http://www.design.ncsu.edu/cud/about_ud/udprinciples.htm](http://www.design.ncsu.edu/cud/about_ud/udprinciples.htm).

Universal designs should attempt to optimize usability for everyone, regardless of where an individual is located on the disability spectrum. Universal design is for people with no known disabilities, mild disabilities, moderate disabilities, and severe disabilities. This includes individuals with temporary (crutches) and long-term disabilities. Universal design has been described as the next phase in the evolution of better design for people with disabilities.

Sample’s of Universal Design Approach

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accommodation Approach</th>
<th>Universal Design Approach</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access is a problem for the individual and should be addressed by that person and the disability service program</td>
<td>Access issues stem from an inaccessible, poorly designed environments and should be addressed by the designer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Access is achieved through accommodations and/or retrofitting existing requirements</td>
<td>The system/environment is designed, to the greatest extent possible, to be usable by all</td>
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<td>Access is retroactive</td>
<td>Access is proactive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Access is often provided in a separate location or through special treatment</td>
<td>Access is inclusive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access must be reconsidered each time a new individual uses the system, i.e. is consumable</td>
<td>Access, as part of the environmental design, is sustainable</td>
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</table>

Source: AHEAD Universal Design Initiative Team

In the next few issues we will explore a variety of ways that Universal Design can be applied in the academic setting.
You have a patient who is mobility impaired and uses a wheelchair. He/she has an appointment at your office. Can you identify seven features that may impede on his/her accessibility to your office?

Do you have a question that you would like answered in an upcoming newsletter please submit your questions to:

sherry.holden@ucdenver.edu
Just for Laughs

One of the diagnoses listed on a patient's chart was culinary artery disease

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What's Wrong with this Picture? p. 39

1. Where entrances are not accessible, directional signage indicating the accessible route to an accessible entrance should be provided.
2. Remove or trim back bush blocking the entrance to the ramp.
3. Remove all obstacles, including bicycles, from the path of travel.
4. Outdoor ramps shall be designed so that water will not accumulate on walking surfaces.
5. Handrails shall be provided along both sides of ramp segments.
6. Ends of handrails shall be either rounded or returned smoothly to the floor, wall, or post. See ADAAG 4.9.4 (2) Figure 19c.
7. Ramps and landings with drop-offs shall have railings and edge protection that prevent people from slipping off.

See ADAAG 4.1 and 4.8 for more details and diagrams.