



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE

Commission for Disability
Meeting Minutes
November 30, 2020 – 12:30 PM

Attendees: Dr. Janelle Coleman, Addie Welch, Dr. Adam Cureton, Dr. Jason Scott, Austin Boyd, David Ndiaye, Dr. Elizabeth MacTavish, Dr. Emma Burgin, Dr. Heather Hartman, Jill Malolepszy, Karmen Jones, Kinley Koontz, Karmen Jones, Riley Toll, Dr. Robert L. Spirko, Dr. Talisha Adams, Tarah Keeler

Agenda Items Discussed

1. Introduction and Minutes Approval

- a. The Co-Chairs called the meeting to order and members were welcomed to the meeting. Minutes from the October 27th meeting were approved.

2. Meeting Time Discussion

- a. The Commission discussed potential consistent meeting days and times for the spring semester. Co-Chairs will synthesize the information gathered by Commission members and set meeting date and time for the spring semester meetings.

3. Ground Rules

- a. Dr. Spirko introduced the idea of setting some ground rules of general conduct and accountability for the Commission.

4. Priorities to be sent to the Chancellor

- a. The Commission discussed the top priorities of the Commission for Disability for the remainder of the 20/21 academic year that will be sent to the Chancellor's office. The members talked about various areas of focus to include in the top priorities to be highlighted for administration.
 - i. Gathering information from the Campus Climate survey
 - ii. Education and Training Accessibility
 - iii. Assessment and Resource Mapping
 - iv. Inaccessibility Reporting system
 - v. Media Accessibility
 - vi. Program Evaluation
- b. Members also discussed potential long-term goals for the Commission
 - i. Increased Disability awareness and inclusivity in Student Life.
 - ii. Integrate Disability in classroom discussions
 - iii. Having First Year Studies class on Disability topics
 - iv. Establishing a Center for Disability and Disability Studies program
- c. The group came to a consensus on how to focus on what can be accomplished during this academic year. Primary focus will be placed on information gathering from multiple sources and coalescing gathered information into an updated report with

recommendations to send to the administration. An emphasis will be placed on all future initiatives and reports to move away from compliance-driven messaging towards a more inclusive, educational approach.

5. Action Items

- a. Send top priorities to the Chancellor's office
- b. GRA to send out Google Form to members to propose the following
 - i. CFD Short-Term Goals
 - ii. CFD Long-Term Visions and Goals
 - iii. Propose Subcommittees and indicate preference for committee placement
- c. Determine consistent meeting date and time for the spring semester
- d. Finalize subcommittee types and assign member placement

6. Shared Materials:

- a. SGA input to Commission for Disability https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Y8Hwqs-W4c_37o0UylAlcqs981CT-LgmLaalf-6z7nE/edit
- b. Article about Online Accessibility Act in higher education: <https://er.educause.edu/blogs/2020/11/lawmakers-introduce-the-online-accessibility-act>
- c. Link to Disability in the Workplace Panel hosted by UTK Center for Career Development & Academic Exploration in collaboration with Student Disability Services. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TcaVt4aWhuY>
- d. Link to Center for Career Development and Academic Exploration resources for students with disabilities: <https://career.utk.edu/students/get-tailored-career-guidance/international-disability-diversity-veterans/>