**ADAAAC Meeting Notes**

**Wed, September 13, 2017**

**10:00am-11:00am**

**Cunningham Hall 795**

Attendees: Jason Anderson, Shannon Aylesworth, Natalie Benavides, Sebastian Black, David Delgado, Cassie Franklin, Aura Hirschman, Kevin Janke, Mary Knasinski, Jason Kuiper, Brian Peters, Kim Pietsch, Mike Priem, Sarah Ruder, Barb Simon, Zach Steurwald, Tiffany Thornton, Beth Traylor, Jeb Willenbring, Susan Wollf.

**1. Approval of last meeting minutes**

**2. Volunteer note taker needed** -Shannon A.

**3. Announcements: webinar recordings and upcoming webinars**

* Accessing Higher Ground - November 13-17, 2017

<http://accessinghigherground.org/>

**4. Update on the accessibility page** - Sarah R.

* Added box in upper right corner with contact information to report accessibility issues with campus events, physical barriers and web pages
  + Campus events: User is redirected to Visitor and Campus Events lower on the page. Suggestion to explain to the user why they were redirected there (i.e. event accessibility is the responsibility of the event sponsor – contact information for the event sponsor is available in this area).
    - Suggestion for a central coordinator because it’s more customer friendly for a person to report an incident immediately than being redirected and required to look for sponsoring event information. It’s also a great way for ADAAAC to track the number of reports received about inaccessible campus events.
    - Kevin J. is looking into the possibility of using Cherwell / Help Desk as a central location to track reports of inaccessible campus events.
    - Suggestion to include a standard campus access statement as a matter of reference for event organizers. Barb S. & Cassie F. are developing this statement
    - Suggestion to include UWM business hours so users know not to expect an immediate response outside of regular business hours
  + Physical barriers: User is redirected to Facility Services iService Desk to submit a service request via [online form](https://fsservicedesk.ad.uwm.edu/home.html)
  + Web access: User is reporting information to University Relations & Communications Web and Mobile who will forward the report to the appropriate department

**5. Industries for the Blind grant** - Jeb W.

* 2016-2017 the Mathematical Sciences Department oversaw a grant to provide math tutors and tutoring for students who are blind or visually impaired.
* 2017-2018 the Accessibility Resource Center will oversee a grant with a similar purpose and the addition of assistive technologies for students who are blind or visually impaired (i.e. in classes, at PASS and the Writing Center)

**6. ARC computer lab and assistive technology in classrooms** - Shannon A.

* Feedback from a survey conducted approximately a year ago advised that a dedicated computer lab for students with disabilities that provided assistive technologies was a priority. ARC students have a computer lab in MIT B22 with assistive technologies, computers, and group meeting space. A wepa printer that is wheelchair accessible is located just outside the computer lab.
* Partnering with Classroom Services to deliver assistive technology to class for students has been extremely successful. Students who in the past were unable to see whiteboards and projection screens were accommodated by notetakers. The adaptive technology provides students an opportunity to actually see the board and screen in real-time so they can participate in the class with their peers.

**7. Deaf Awareness Week Wisconsin (DAWW)** - Jason A.

* Daily events at UWM from 9/25 - 9/28. Jason A. highlighted events in which ARC is heavily involved: Deaf Trivia on Tuesday, Life Stories on Wednesday and International Deaf Student Panel on Thursday.
* More information available on the [DAWW webpage](http://uwm.edu/education/about/deaf-awareness-week-wisconsin/)

**8. Barrier Study Committee and wheelchair availability survey** - Barb A.

* A community representative on the committee suggested that UWM have wheelchairs available in each building on campus. That comment led to conducting an informal survey of wheelchair availability among other WI colleges and universities. Results of the survey are widely varied. ARC learned that UWM has wheelchairs available at the Union Information Center and at the Visitor Center. Norris also has wheelchairs but they are for Norris. Beth T. thought the library also had a wheelchair and is looking into that.

**9. Cover letter for Accessibility Policy** - Aura H.

* Committee approved the letter. Next step is for ADAAAC co-chairs to officially submit the letter and accessibility policy for review.

**10. Annual Report Feedback** – Postponed till October meeting

**11. Other Business**

* October is Disability Awareness month. Independence First is hosting an art exhibit showcasing art from artists with disabilities on October 20 from 5-9pm

<https://www.independencefirst.org/events/community/independencefirst-gallery-night-reception-(1)>

* October is also National Fire Prevention month. UWM campus safety week is 10/2-10/6 with an event on 10/2 from 10-2pm in Spaights Plaza.

<http://uwm.edu/police/wp-content/uploads/sites/58/2017/09/Campus-Safety-Week-2017.pdf>

* Mike P. from campus planning would like to bring designs for the engineering classroom updates to the ADAAAC for feedback in October or November.
* Question about smoke free campus and designated smoking area initiative. Student Association opposes the idea and the initiative is unlikely to succeed without their support.
* Kim P. volunteered to be the notetaker for November’s meeting.

**Next Meeting:**

**October 11 from 10-11am. Location to be determined.**