ADAAAC Meeting MINUTES

Wed, March 14, 2018

10:00 – 11:00pm

Cunningham Hall Room 795

1. Last meeting minutes - Approved
2. Note taker volunteer - Barb Simon
3. Announcements
4. UW System Virtual Showcase- will be April 4 &5, Shannon and Aura are presenting with CETL staff, Dylan and Amy on the Faculty Training modules.
5. Ahead Conference Poster-Aura and Jeb W. were accepted to present a poster at the National AHEAD conference in New Mexico this Summer. Their poster is on the grant for tutoring services used to support math learning in students with visual impairments.
6. Webinar: Introduction to Audio Description – March 15 –Discussion of the webinar.

<https://www.3playmedia.com/resources/webinars/webinar-registration-03-15-2018/?mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiT1RZNU1qTXpabVExTW1ObSIsInQiOiJ6SG1jZ3JMK29cL1RPaXRFdEhpMlwvMzBqeUZmMmxIdU84RkhjaHFYR3ZJNVZEWXFieEoyMXBWeWtwSEV3Q0c2TXNrazgyWk1FbmVNNVRPaHM1ZDBXTWxJS1Zsb2lnZ2FLNVFLVjRUaHFpek8yN2tBMko4OEpIejY1ejNvKzJuNUNwIn0%3D>

1. Discussion on responses to the feedback on the Accessibility Policy

Shannon Aylesworth provided a summary of her research report on web accessibility policies at 23 post-secondary institutions. She highlighted the cases of Ohio State and Montana, which has a “team” that serves as ADA coordinator. She noted that UC Berkeley’s OCR case was in 1997 and not resolved until 2005. This gives an idea of the amount of time these cases can take to go through the complaint system.

Resolution of all of the OCR cases included a requirement for the University to designate one individual with the authority and resources to implement an accessibility policy. This led to a discussion of job descriptions for this position. Shannon noted that Idaho, Rutgers and University of Virginia have PDs that have a wide scope of responsibility across campus.

The second part of the discussion was presented by Beth T. and focused on the feedback to the policy which included 4 questions:

1. Does the policy go beyond what is legally required?
2. Who/What will ensure accountability of the policy?
3. What is the cost?
4. What are the priorities?

There was a lengthy discussion of how to approach the priorities. Brian P. and Cassie F. suggested adding various language to acknowledge that some complex pages/projects might require more time (than the guideline of 10 days). Cassie suggested changing it to something like, “The Department will respond within 10 days of your request, with an estimate of how long it will take to provide the accessible material.” This would allow some flexibility. Zak S. noted that they use a similar process in safety—if something can’t get done right away, they provide a timeline.

Jeb suggested perhaps it would make sense to focus more on the top 20% of web pages visited than on making everything accessible that was done within the last year. There was much discussion about how to handle legacy pages. Shannon suggested that pages under a year old should be made accessible.

Cost and what is legally required Question. Aura shared comments submitted by Roger Smith which emphasized that minimum standards should not be our guide. Roger stated that UWM can do better than meet requirements of the law, codes and legal standards, since these often do not meet practical accessibility needs. Shannon suggested getting some student testimony on what students needed and perhaps how current accessibility (even though meeting legal requirements) did not meet true need. Jeb W. posed the question of whether the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) has standards that go beyond the ADA. Beth will check.

1. Announcements

* Beth T. mentioned that after a student asked about accessible laptops available at library, a list was created to describe equipment with accessible features. It is on a library webpage.
* David D. gave an update on D2L-mentioned that the graph editor function is not working as it should and it may impact accessibility. Please let David know if you hear of anyone experiencing these problems. David also noted that production access is coming to Canvas. Dylan in CETL is working on setting up access for departments.
* Finally, CETL filed an application for ED TECH funding for UDOIT to implement accessibility resources for Canvas. It should be ready in time for training over the Summer.

Next Meeting: April 11 at 10:00 a.m.